

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 12, 70-116, and 124-129 have been canceled. Claims 9-11, 13-69, 117-123, and 130-132 have been allowed.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-8, 12, 111-116, and 124-126 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-8, 12, 111-116, and 124-126, *i.e.*, all the rejected claims under § 112, have been canceled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 111-116 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,088,971 (“Herrington”).

Claim 12 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,470,551.

Claims 3 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herrington in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,448,807.

Claims 1-8, 12, and 111-116, *i.e.*, all the rejected claims under §§ 102 and 103, have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

All the pending claims, claims 9-11, 13-69, 117-123, and 130-132, have been allowed.

Conclusion

It is the Applicants' belief that all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and thus reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

It is believed that no fee is presently due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47097-01034.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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